

## Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CU-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00  
NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-05 H-01  
INR-07 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15  
OMB-01 /065 W

-----047615 230447Z /15

O 230425Z JUL 77

FM USLO PEKING

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8256

INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT CH

SUBJ: SECOND DAY OF PRO-TENG DEMONSTRATIONS IN PEKING

REFS: PEKING 1516, 1517

1. SITUATION REPORT ON PRO-TENG DEMONSTRATIONS IN PEKING AT  
1130 HOURS JULY 23.

2. IN A VIRTUAL RERUN OF LAST OCTOBER'S STREET CELEBRATIONS  
TO COMMEMORATE THE SMASHING OF THE GANG OF FOUR AND THE  
APPOINTMENT OF HUA KUO-FENG AS PARTY CHAIRMAN, A MULTITUDE  
OF DRUM-POUNDING AND PENNANT-WAVING PEKING UNITS BEGAN TO  
CONVERGE ON TIEN AN MEN SQUARE BEFORE 0700 HOURS JULY 23.  
MILITARY UNITS AND NEIGHBORHOOD COMMITTEES CONSTITUTED THE  
VAST MAJORITY OF THE MORNING'S MARCHERS. EXPLODING FIRECRACKERS  
AND PIPED-IN MUSIC OVER CHANG AN STREET LOUDSPEAKERS ADDED A  
CERTAIN ARTIFICIAL LIVELINESS TO THE FESTIVITIES.

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3. BUT THERE HAS BEEN A PERFUNCTORY AIR ABOUT THE WHOLE  
AFFAIR, A MOOD INDUCED BY A COMBINATION OF ANTICLIMAX,  
INTERMITTENT SHOWERS, AND A SENSE OF DEJA VU. THERE HAS  
BEEN NONE OF THE SPONTANEITY AND VERY LITTLE OF THE GENUINE  
JUBILATION WHICH WAS SO APPARENT LAST OCTOBER. MANY OF  
THE PENNANTS BEAR LAST OCTOBER'S ANTI-GANG OF FOUR SLOGANS,

AS THOUGH THEY ARE RELICS CAREFULLY PRESERVED AND REISSUED FOR THIS LONG-WAITED OCCASION. OTHER PENNANTS AND BANNERS CARRY SLOGANS WELCOMING THE CONFIRMATION OF HUA AS CHAIRMAN, THE RESTORATION OF TENG'S POSTS, AND THE "VICTORIOUS" CONVOCAION OF THE PARTY PLENUM. MOST UNITS CARRY PICTURES OF HUA AND MAO (ALSO LEFT OVER FROM LAST OCTOBER'S MARCH); MANY BEAR HUA, MAO AND CHOU. SO FAR, HOWEVER, TENG'S PORTRAIT HAS NOT BEEN SPOTTED.

4. ACCORDING TO LOW-LEVEL CHINESE, THE STREET DEMONSTRATIONS WILL CONTINUE THROUGHOUT THE WEEKEND. THERE HAS BEEN NO ANNOUNCEMENT AND THERE SEEMS TO BE NO EXPECTATION CONCERNING CONVOCAION OF A MASS RALLY TO WELCOME BACK TENG. THIS WILL PRESUMABLY BE LEFT EITHER FOR ARMY DAY OR FOR THE "VICTORIOUS" ADJOURNMENT OF THE 11TH PARTY CONGRESS AND/OR 5TH NATIONAL PEOPLE'S CONGRESS.

5. SATURDAY'S NEWSPAPERS FEATURE FRONT-PAGE PHOTOS OF A RATHER OWLISH-LOOKING HUA AND OF THE NEW TRIUMVIRATE OF PARTY VICE CHAIRMEN: A SMILING HUA, A TIRED BUT RAMROD STRAIGHT YEH CHIEN-YING, AND AN INTENSE AND YOUTHFUL TENG. UNDERNEATH BANNER RED HEADLINES THE PAPERS ALSO CARRY THE FULL TEXT OF THE PLENUM COMMUNIQUE (STILL BEING READ OVER PEKING RADIO) AND THE JOINT EDITORIAL BY RED FLAG, PEOPLE'S DAILY AND LIBERATION ARMY DAILY. THE COMPARATIVELY SHORT EDITORIAL REITERATES THE PLENUM DECISIONS; EXTOLLS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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HUA'S LEADERSHIP AND CREDITS HIM WITH SUPPORTING TENG'S RETURN; NOTES THAT "CHAIRMAN MAO LONG AGO MADE A CLEAR AND ALL-ROUND ASSESSMENT OF COMRADE TENG HSIAO-PING" (THIS IS SURELY UNINTENTIONAL IRONY -- THE REFERENCE IS TO MAO'S DECISION IN 1973 TO RESTORE TENG); AND EXPRESSES FAITH IN THE "BRIGHT FUTURE" OF THE PARTY NOW THAT IT "AGAIN HAS WHAT LENIN DESCRIBED AS A MORE OR LESS STABLE GROUP 'COMPRISED OF THE MOST AUTHORITATIVE, INFLUENTIAL AND EXPERIENCED MEMBERS....'"

6. WE UNDERSTAND THAT STREET CELEBRATIONS HAVE BEGUN IN SIAN. SIMILAR CELEBRATIONS ARE PRESUMABLY OCCURRING IN OTHER MAJOR CHINESE CITIES.  
DEAN

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## Message Attributes

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